FEBRUARY, 1937 VOL. 4, NO. 6

NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

National Congress of Parents and Teachers 1201 16th St N W Washington D C

President Roosevelt's Message on Fortieth Anniversary

President Roosevelt extends congratulations to the members of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers on the occasion of the Fortieth Anniversary of the founding of what he terms "this great voluntary organization of fathers, mothers, and teachers."

In a letter to Mrs. Martha Sprague Mason, Editor, published in the February issue of the *National Parent-Teacher*, official magazine of the Congress, the Chief Executive writes:

> It gives me pleasure to send you and members of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers my hearty congratulations upon the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the founding of this great voluntary organization of fathers, mothers, and teachers. The National Congress makes a valuable contribution to the stability of communities and to the security of children.
>
> At this time it is particularly important that parents and teachers shall cooperate in laying permanent foundations for the character education of future citizens. The schools and the homes in rural as well as urban areas should work together so that every child in America may be benefited.
>
> I wish for your organization continued success.

Forty Years of Service

During the coming year, parent-teacher associations throughout the nation will celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the founding of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers.

The National Congress urges local units to celebrate the anniversary year by considering special projects emphasizing needs of youth, world peace, homemaking as a career, safety in home, school, and community, or some other phase of parent-teacher work; by emphasizing the underlying principles of the Congress through programs; by keeping alive the spirit of the founders and pioneer workers; and by presenting offerings for extension work.

Attention will be called to the Anniversary in a variety of ways. The National Convention, to be held in Richmond, Virginia, May 3-7, will feature the 40th Anniversary, and many state conventions will do likewise. A state Congress pioneer from each state will be honored during the National Convention.

Tree plantings during 1937 by lo-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Theme Selected for National Convention

"The Place of the Home in the Community" is to be the theme of the Forty-first Annual Convention of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, to be held in Richmond, Virginia, May 3-7, it is announced by Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, National President. Delegates representing a membership of nearly 2,000,000 in more than 25,000 parent-teacher associations are expected to attend the Convention.

Convention program plans outlined by the Executive Committee at a recent meeting in Washington call for development of the theme through addresses and panel discussions, presenting the broad aspects of the subject, at the morning sessions. Specific phases of the theme as it relates to committee work of the Congress will be developed in numerous conference groups, led by national chairmen of standing committees, each afternoon.

As part of the celebration of the Fortieth Anniversary of the founding of the National Congress, which is being observed during 1937, each state Congress is being invited to send one or more of its pioneer workers to the National Convention. State Congress pioneers will be honor guests at the Wednesday evening session, May 5. Founders will be honored at a Tree Planting Ceremony on Sunday, May 2.

Election of thirteen new officers will take place on Tuesday, May 4. These officers will include ten vicepresidents, eight of whom must be chosen from geographical regions prescribed by the National Board of Managers, in accordance with a

(*Continued on page 4*)

FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION — RICHMOND, VIRGINIA — MAY 3-7, 1937
Theme: The Place of the Home in the Community. Headquarters: John Marshall Hotel

Immediate Action Urged on Major Legislative Items

Neely-Pettengill Motion Picture Bill

"Every person who has voted to indorse the Neely-Pettengill bill to 'abolish compulsory block-booking and blind-selling of motion pictures' should 'take his pen in hand' *now* and write the two Senators from his state and the Representative from his Congressional District asking their support of this measure," says Mrs. Mary T. Bannerman, National Chairman of Legislation.

"Letters from every state should also be written to the chairmen of the Committees to which these bills have been referred: Hon. Burton K. Wheeler, Chairman, Committee on Interstate Commerce, U. S. Senate; and Hon. Clarence F. Lea, Chairman, Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, U. S. House of Representatives."

The same bill which made such progress last year was re-introduced the first day of the 75th Congress. It is numbered S. 153 Neely—H.R. 1669 Pettengill.

Food, Drugs, and Cosmetics Bill

On the opening day of the 75th Congress, Senator Royal S. Copeland re-introduced S. 5 and Representative Virgil Chapman H.R. 300. These bills are not identical, but both aim to insure foods, drugs, and cosmetics free from adulteration or poisonous ingredients, truthfully advertised and honestly merchandised. Letters should be written at once by all who favor these objectives to their two U. S. Senators and the Representatives from their Congressional Districts.

"With the 'back home' sentiment expressed in letters to Congressmen which indorsements indicate exists, these measures should promptly be enacted into law," Mrs. Bannerman believes.

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National President: Mrs. B. F. Langworthy
General Secretary: William H. Bristow
Editor: Clarice Wade

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Among matters of interest to state board members discussed by the Executive Committee at its meeting in Washington, January 13-16, are the following:

The program for the National Convention in Richmond was set up in tentative form (this outline appears in another section of this bulletin).

A portfolio of radio material, addresses, skits, and short fillers on Safety Education, was announced as being available for Congress units from the office of the Traffic Safety Education Project of the National Congress, Room 1406, 114 East 32nd Street, New York City.

An invitation from the World Federation of Education Associations for the President of the National Congress to appear on the program of the biennial convention in Tokyo, Japan, in August, was accepted.

Plans for parent-teacher courses in colleges and summer institutes during the coming year were discussed. A list of these will be published in an early issue of the BULLETIN, when more detailed information is available.

A committee to cooperate with the United States Constitution Sesquicentennial Commission was appointed as follows: Mrs. Mary T. Bannerman, Mrs. M. P. Summers and Mrs. Simon S. Lapham.

The Consumers' Protection Label was indorsed.

Department of Superintendence Convention

Several members of the National Board of Managers will participate in section meetings of the Department of Superintendence Convention at New Orleans, February 20-25.

Dr. William H. Bristow, General Secretary, will participate in a panel discussion of the Department of Secondary School Principals on February 20 and will speak at a meeting of the American Educational Research Association on "Educational Research for Popular Consumption" on February 22.

Miss Marian Telford, National Safety Chairman, will speak at a section on safety education, February 22, on "Cooperation with National Organizations in Safety Education."

Mrs. B. F. Langworthy will also speak at one of the sections on safety education.

Representatives of state Congresses appointed to attend the Parent-Teacher Section on February 22 include the following:

Miss Mary England, Alabama; Mrs. Curtis Stout, Arkansas; Mrs. Charles D. Center, Georgia; Mrs. Albert L. Smith, Louisiana; Mrs. William T. Sanders, Michigan; Mrs. I. A. Rosenbaum, Mississippi; Mrs. L. W. Hughes, Tennessee; Mrs. M. A. Taylor, Texas.

Mississippi and Louisiana Plan Founders Day Celebration

Mississippi and Louisiana Congresses of Parents and Teachers will hold a joint celebration of Founders Day in New Orleans on February 19.

Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, National President, and Mrs. Fred M. Raymond, National Founders Day Chairman, who will attend the Department of Superintendence Convention, will be honor guests at the celebration.

A tree planting and a banquet will be features of the program.

FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

Richmond, Virginia, May 3-7, 1937

Theme: The Place of the Home in the Community — *Headquarters: John Marshall Hotel*

CALL

The National Congress of Parents and Teachers hereby calls its membership to send accredited delegates and representatives to meet in Convention in Richmond, Virginia, May 3-7, 1937.

Preliminary Program

Friday, April 30—Special Committee meetings

Saturday, May 1—National Board of Managers' meeting

National Chairmen's Conference

State Presidents' Conference

Sunday, May 2—Tree Planting honoring Congress Founders

Monday, May 3

Opening Session of the Convention

Presentation of Convention Theme: *The Place of the Home in the Community*

Morning Discussion Topic: *Home and School Unite for a Finer Community Life*

Afternoon Conferences led by National Committee Chairmen

Evening Topic: *What Is a Literate Community?*

Tuesday, May 4

Election of National Officers

Morning Discussion Topic: *Health of the Community*

Afternoon Conferences led by National Committee Chairmen

Evening Topic: *The Cradle of Our National Community*

Annual Banquet

Wednesday, May 5

Morning Discussion Topic: *Youth in a Modern Community*

Afternoon Conferences led by National Committee Chairmen

Evening Topic: *Pioneers in a Community*

Concert by National Mothersingers Chorus

Thursday, May 6

Morning Business session, including revision of National Bylaws, adoption of Resolutions, and report of Elections Committee

Afternoon Conferences led by National Committee Chairmen

Evening Topic: *The Community at Play* (followed by Family Play Night)

New Officers Installed

Friday, May 7

Pilgrimage to Centers of Early American Community Life: Jamestown, Williamsburg, and Yorktown

National Board meeting

Saturday, May 8

National Board meeting

General Information About The National Convention

Representation

National Bylaws, Article VII, Section 3: Each state branch shall be entitled to be represented at the Annual Convention of the National Congress by its president, and three other state officers, or their alternates, and one delegate for every one thousand members in good standing as shown on the books of the national treasurer. The selection of the delegates and their alternates in each state shall be made or authorized by the state board of managers.

Section 4. The Convention of the National Congress shall be open to all members of the Congress, but the privilege of making motions, debating, and voting shall be limited to the members of the Board of Managers, to the associate chairmen of national committees, and to the accredited representatives from each state branch. A voting member shall have but one vote, although entitled to vote in more than one capacity.

Revision of Bylaws

Notice of revision of Bylaws is hereby given.

Registration

Registration of National Board Members and local members will be held at the John Marshall Hotel, Friday, April 30, and Saturday, May 1. The Registration Booth will be open for all members from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. daily beginning Monday, May 3. All members, both voting and visiting, should register. Voting members should present their credential cards at the Credentials Booth. Upon payment of the registration fee of $1, each registrant receives a copy of the official Convention program, a delegate's notebook, and an admission card to all sessions.

Meetings

All meetings held during the Convention shall be scheduled and no meetings shall be called without the approval of the Convention Program Committee.

Resolutions

Resolutions should be prepared in proper form and typed before presentation to the committee. Congress members are urged to submit recommendations concerning resolutions for consideration by the Resolutions Committee. All resolutions must be submitted to the Resolutions Committee Chairman, Ellen C. Lombard, before April 30.

Exhibits

The exhibits, including the Congress Publications and *National Parent-Teacher* booth, will be open daily from 8:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., except during general sessions.

Publicity

The Convention News Office and the Press Room will be open daily from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. and from 7:30 to 8:30 P.M. Convention publicity is under the direction of the National Publicity Secretary, Clarice Wade.

Music

Assembly singing will be led by Mayme E. Irons, National Chairman of Music. Rehearsals of the National Mothersingers Chorus will be scheduled on Monday and Tuesday.

Hotel Reservations

The John Marshall Hotel is the Convention Headquarters. Other Richmond hotels offering special Convention rates are the Jefferson, Murphy, Richmond, Rueger, William Byrd, Travelers, Sharlee, Gilbert, Connel and Miller, and Walford. (See the December NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN for hotel rates.) Make your reservation early through the Housing Committee, National Congress of Parents and Teachers Convention, 105 North 5th Street, Richmond, Virginia.

Transportation Rates

Standard railroad fare in day coaches is 2 cents a mile; in sleeping cars, 3 cents a mile, plus Pullman charges. Special convention rates were discontinued last summer when all passenger fares were reduced. In most cases, the new rates are lower than former convention rates. Consult your local ticket agent concerning round-trip rates which may be available, especially if you live in the West or South. Groups of 25 or more traveling together may be able to secure special rates if arrangements are made in advance.

Congress members residing in the territory of the Southeastern Passenger Association may secure tickets on the following basis: 15-day limit fares good in Pullman may be made available at the rate of 2 cents per mile; 6-month limit tickets good in Pullman may be had on the basis of 2½ cents per mile.

Diverse route tickets may be purchased for the Convention on the basis of one half of the 15-day limit and 6-month limit fares, respectively, applying via route used on the going trip plus one half of the 15-day limit and 6-month limit fares, respectively, applying via route used on return trip. Round-trip tickets good in coaches only may be purchased daily with limit 30 days, the coach fares being on basis of 1½ cents per mile in each direction except that on certain lines the coach rate is 2 cents per mile.

Features

The annual banquet will be held on Tuesday evening, May 4, followed by an informal reception to delegates.

The State Presidents' Club will hold its annual luncheon on Sunday, May 2. Mrs. W. A. Hastings, President of the Wisconsin Congress, will preside.

A Tree Planting Ceremony, in honor of our founders, will take place Sunday afternoon, May 2, with Mrs. Fred M. Raymond, National Chairman of Founders Day, presiding. Judge Florence Allan, of Ohio, will be the speaker.

A Pilgrimage will be made Friday, May 7, to centers of early community life, Williamsburg, Yorktown, and Jamestown.

Mrs. Langworthy Named Consulting Editor of Magazine

Mrs. B. F. Langworthy was appointed Consulting Editor of the *National Parent-Teacher*, official magazine of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Child Welfare Company in Washington. Mrs. E. C. Mason retired after being editor since 1929. Miss Frances Ullmann, Assistant Editor since 1931, was named Acting Editor.

Officers and Directors of the Child Welfare Company were re-elected as follows:

President—Mrs. Frederick M. Hosmer, Auburn, New York.

Vicepresident — Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, Winnetka, Illinois.

Treasurer—Mrs. Simon S. Lapham, Providence, Rhode Island.

Secretary—Mrs. Hamilton Shaffer, Dayton, Ohio.

Directors—Mrs. Raymond Binford, Guilford College, North Carolina; Mrs. Hugh Bradford, Sacramento, California; J. W. Faust, New York City; Mrs. E. C. Mason, Winchester, Massachusetts; Mrs. J. K. Pettengill, Detroit, Michigan; Dr. William McKinley Robinson, Kalamazoo, Michigan; Mrs. Hamilton Shaffer; Mrs. Simon S. Lapham; Mrs. B. F. Langworthy; and Mrs. Frederick M. Hosmer.

Tribute was paid to Mrs. Mason, retiring Editor, at a luncheon given in her honor by the Executive Committee of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers and the Board of Directors of the Child Welfare Company, at which her colleagues spoke appreciatively of her long years of service to the Congress. Mrs. Mason served as first vicepresident of the National Congress from 1926 to 1930, as Associate Editor of its magazine from 1923 to 1929, and as Editor from 1929 to 1937. In the Massachusetts Parent-Teacher Association she has filled many offices, including that of state president, secretary, and state bulletin editor; at present she is state chairman of motion pictures. A Jensen silver brooch was presented to Mrs. Mason as a token of affection and appreciation by the Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

HELPS ON RADIO AND EXHIBITS

Radio

A valuable compilation of "Suggestions to Supervisors of Parent-Teacher Broadcasts" has been made by B. H. Darrow, National Chairman of Radio. The statement gives helpful advice on what to broadcast, choice of time, cooperation with radio stations, where to get scripts, writing of scripts, effective broadcasting, and listening groups. Every parent-teacher worker interested in better radio programs should have a copy of this 6-page mimeographed statement. Order from the National Office, price 5 cents.

Exhibits

A mimeographed, illustrated bulletin on Parent-Teacher Exhibits is available from the National Office. It gives practical suggestions on building exhibits and displaying them, tells what to display, how to display it, and where to obtain material needed for a successful exhibit. Price 15 cents.

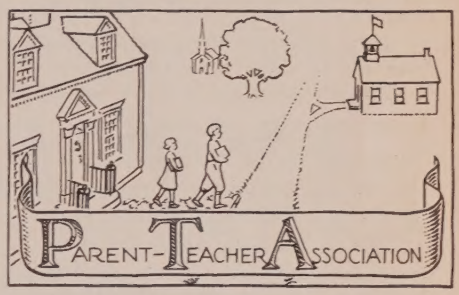
PARENT-TEACHER PUBLICITY MANUAL

The revised edition of the *Parent-Teacher Publicity* manual, recently published by the National Congress, is on the "must" list of books for publicity workers, editors, and others engaged in activities of public interest. This handy little book tells how to arouse and maintain interest in parent-teacher work through judicious use of publicity. Newswriting, radio broadcasting, poster-making, and exhibits are discussed in considerable detail. Attractive sketches illustrate many of the sections.

While the book is intended primarily for parent-teacher workers, its suggestions are applicable to other organizations and it is being used by many other groups as well as in the Congress.

The book is available from the National Office, price 25 cents in paper covers or 50 cents in cloth binding.

National Congress of Parents and Teachers



Fortieth Anniversary

1897 · February 17 · 1937

FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY CACHET

The above illustration shows the cachet which has been prepared for the 40th Anniversary of the founding of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers.

Collectors desiring covers cacheted are invited to send stamped, self-addressed envelopes to the National Office. The release date for the cachet is Founders Day, February 17, 1937.

State Congresses desiring to use the cachet after its release on February 17 may obtain a rubber stamp or an electro for printing, from the National Office. The price of each is $2 (size shown in the illustration above).

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The World Conference of the World Federation of Education Association to be held in Tokyo, Japan, August 2-7, 1937, is arousing interest everywhere. Already more than 600 persons have indicated that they plan to attend.

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A new pamphlet, *Protection Against Habit-Forming Drugs*, a survey of law enforcement and other activities of the U. S. Treasury Department in dealing with the narcotic problem, is available free from U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

Child Labor Amendment

Ratification of the Child Labor Amendment is one of the major items on state Congress legislative programs of all states which have not yet ratified this amendment. With most of the state Legislatures in session, the time is ripe for a strong campaign for ratification.

Mrs. Beaumont Whitaker, President of the Kentucky Congress of Parents and Teachers, recently telegraphed the National Office the good news that Kentucky had ratified the amendment. A total of 26 states have ratified it and only 10 more states are needed to make the amendment a part of the United States Constitution.

Parents and teachers who have worked for many years to secure ratification of the Child Labor Amendment by the states will be interested in this frank statement from an editorial in the *New York Daily News:* "Newspapers and magazines have opposed or soft-pedaled the proposed anti-child labor amendment to the Constitution—and the people know why. It is because papers and magazines employ child labor, which costs less than grown-up labor. Fewer and fewer people believe the papers' smug talk about the 'little merchants' and the fine training for business careers that the papers are giving them."

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Our attention has been called to the fact that parent-teacher associations have been asked to become commissioned selling agents for a certain children's encyclopedia, thus entering into a competitive commercial field. Not only does such a proposal violate the non-commercial policy of the National Congress, but the trade ethics involved are seriously questioned by the book trade, as is shown by the following excerpt from an editorial in the *Publishers' Weekly* for January 9, 1937:

"We should like to see this (P.T.A.'s selling encyclopedias) discussed by the pupils themselves in a class old enough to weigh trade ethics. We should like to hear some of our clear-eyed youngsters bore into the subtleties of this sales method. For our part, we say don't bring selling projects into the classroom; keep P.T.A. lists private; sell books to schools on their merits—the keen competition will keep the costs at reasonable levels."

RADIO FORUM

Familiar voices are heard occasionally asking the questions which close the National Radio Forum each week; sometimes the questioner is not identified on the program. To answer numerous inquiries about these unknown participants, the following have been heard on consecutive Wednesdays, beginning October 21: Mrs. Langworthy, Mrs. William H. Bristow, D. C.; Mrs. Clifford Jenkins, N. Y.; Mrs. George Beanstone, California; Mrs. W. B. Fry, D. C.; Mrs. E. C. Stopher, Ohio (two weeks); Mrs. Luther Putney, Massachusetts; Mrs. Ross Coppage, Maryland; J. W. Faust, New York; Mrs. Ralph Brodie, New York; Mrs. E. C. Mason, Massachusetts; Mrs. Langworthy.

G. D. Carlyle Thompson, Director of Maternal and Child Health of the state of Idaho, has arranged to rebroadcast the Radio Forum from local stations in Boise, Twin Falls, and Pocatello, since reception of the national broadcasts in that region is poor.

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FORTY YEARS OF SERVICE

(*Continued from page* 1)

cal Congress units, councils, districts, and state branches will be a prominent feature of the observance. Founders Day pageants and plays will be presented in many communities, and numerous radio broadcasts are to be given.

The *National Parent-Teacher*, official magazine of the National Congress, will publish a number of articles bearing on the development of the Congress. A leaflet, "Forty Years of Service," giving a brief history of the Congress, by Mrs. John E. Hayes and Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, is being widely circulated.

A 40th Anniversary seal, embossed in blue and gold, has been made available by the National Congress for members to use on programs, letters, place cards, and in other ways. A 40th Anniversary cachet has been prepared for release on February 17, which will be used thereafter by the states in publications and on stationery.

PARENT - TEACHER RADIO FORUM ON GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHILD

NBC BLUE NETWORK

WEDNESDAY, 4:00-4:30 P. M., E.S.T.
Sponsored by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, American Academy of Pediatrics, and National Broadcasting Company

March 3

Emotional Development in Children

John E. Anderson, Director, Institute of Child Welfare, University of Minnesota

March 10

The Connection Between Mind and Body Growth

Bert I. Beverly, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Rush Medical College

March 17

Fitting the Course of Study to the Child's Mental Development

Carleton Washburne, Superintendent, Public Schools, Winnetka, Illinois

March 24

Education and Mental Growth

Frank N. Freeman, Professor of Educational Psychology, University of Chicago

March 31

Athletics, Exercise, and Fatigue in Growing Children

D. B. Dill, Associate Professor of Industrial Physiology, Harvard Fatigue Laboratory

Single mimeographed copies of talks may be obtained from the National Office, price 5 cents each.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

(*Continued from page* 1)

provision written into the National Bylaws at the 1936 National Convention. Under the new Bylaws, the president, first and third vice-presidents, secretary, and treasurer will be elected for a three-year term; the second, fourth, sixth, and eighth vicepresidents for a two-year term; and the fifth, seventh, ninth, and tenth vicepresidents for a one-year term; only the last group will be eligible for re-election.

Headquarters for the Convention will be the John Marshall Hotel, Richmond. For further information about the Convention, write to the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, 1201 Sixteenth Street N. W., Washington, D. C.